

FISCAL NOTE

SB 661 - HB 1607

March 20, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes psychologists to prescribe drugs, laboratory tests, medicines, devices and treatments after receiving a special certification from the Board of Examiners in Psychology.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant
Increase State Revenues – Not Significant

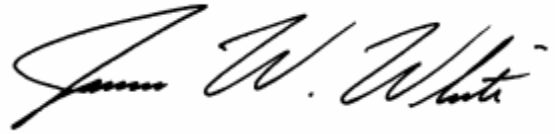
Assumptions:

- There will be an increase in state expenditures for the notification to licensees of changes, rulemaking and computer modifications to the Regulatory Boards Licensing System. Such is estimated to be not significant.
- The Board of Examiners in Psychology, by statute, is self-supporting such that revenues equal expenditures.
- The multidisciplinary advisory group will not receive per diem or travel.
- The Bureau of TennCare has more than \$2 billion in drug expenditures. According to the TennCare Bureau, very few psychologists will meet the requirements to gain prescribing privileges and the Bureau therefore will not incur a significant increase in State and Federal expenditures for increased prescriptions. The Fiscal Review Committee staff believes that if the number of psychologists with prescribing authority increases significantly, there may be an increase in the number of prescriptions subject to TennCare reimbursement which could result in a significant increase in state and federal TennCare expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director